project on "Strengthening of Bio-Chemical Laboratories and Quality Assurance", was initiated in 1999-2000 in the States of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Punjab. The National Diabetes Control Programme has now been merged with the Indian Council of Medical Research which has constituted as Expert Group to formulate a revised comprehensive Plan of action to control diabetes. Central Health Education Bureau (CHEB) has also strategies/programme including use of powerful electronic media to spread health messages to increase Public Health awareness about diabetes.

Use of expired medicines in pulse polio drive

2997. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expired medicines were also used during the pulse polio drive;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of such cases were detected in U.P. and Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the CBI has registered cases of not providing the polio dose in Rajasthan, besides the scam of Rs. 40 lakhs; and

(e) if so, the details of action taken against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) to (e) There has been no report of any case registered for not providing polio doses in Rajasthan. However, a case of alleged financial irregularity by some officials of Rajasthan Government is presently under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation.